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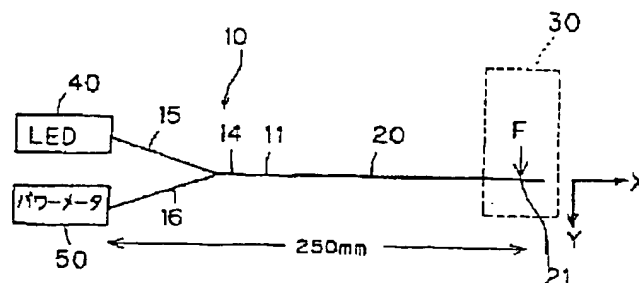
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TITLE : OPTICAL SWITCH



ABSTRACT : PURPOSE: To obtain the optical switch which is easily manufactured and assembled by making the optical switch operate corresponding to an external applied driving force and deforming an elastic optical fiber.

CONSTITUTION: When the intermediate part 21 of the elastic optical fiber 20 is deformed by a switch part 30, part of a light signal which is sent from an LED 40 to the elastic optical fiber 20 through an optical branching and coupling unit 10 is reflected by the deformed part (intermediate part 21) and outputted to a power meter 50 through the optical branching and coupling unit 10. Thus, the optical switch of this constitution is provided and neither highly precise optical axis alignment nor precise machining of optical fiber end surfaces is required, so the optical switch is easily manufactured and assembled.

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